United Nations S/2001/633

Security Council

Distr.: General
26 June 2001

Original: English

Letter dated 26 June 2001 from the Permanent Representative of the United Republic of Tanzania to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

I have the honour to forward to you the joint communiqué of the fifth consultative meeting of the Ministers for Defence of the United Republic of Tanzania and the Republic of Burundi (see annex).

I should be grateful if the text could be circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Daudi N. **Mwakawago**
Ambassador

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Annex to the letter dated 26 June 2001 from the Permanent Representative of the United Republic of Tanzania to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

Joint communiqué of the fifth consultative meeting of the Ministers for Defence of the United Republic of Tanzania and the Republic of Burundi

1. The Ministers for Defence of the United Republic of Tanzania and of the Republic of Burundi, the Hon. Professor Philemon Sarungi, MP, and Colonel Cyrille Ndayirukiye, respectively, held their fifth meeting at the Sea Cliff Hotel in Dar es Salaam on 23 and 24 June 2001.

2. The Deputy Minister for Home Affairs of the United Republic of Tanzania, the Hon. John Chiligati, MP, and the Regional Commissioner of Kigoma, the Hon. Abubakar Y. Mgumia, together with Ambassador Emmanuel Rwamibango, Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Embassy of Burundi in Dar es Salaam, also took part in the discussions.

3. The Ministers noted that security along the common border has not improved, in spite of the strong political will which exists between the two countries, as expressed during their last meeting held in Bujumbura. The two sides noted with serious concern and condemned the perpetration of illegal movements and criminal activities on the common border and reiterated the need to exchange timely information on the same so as to facilitate necessary actions.

4. The Ministers were briefed on the developments that have taken place along the common border since their last meeting, held in Bujumbura in February 2001. The two Ministers directed the leadership at the local level of the two countries to meet frequently to solve the problem of cross-border crimes, including theft of cattle and banditry.

5. With regard to stolen property intercepted, the Ministers agreed that such property should not be sold but should be returned to the country of origin expeditiously and the collaborators arrested.

6. Concerning the repatriation of refugees the two Ministers have commended the signing of the Tripartite Agreement between the United Republic of Tanzania, Burundi and UNHCR last May in accordance with the relevant recommendation of the fourth consultative meeting, held in Bujumbura in February 2001. The Ministers have directed that the meeting of the Technical Working Group be held in early July in Kigoma as scheduled, so as to put in place the operational plan for the repatriation of refugees and propose any other measures conducive to facilitating and speeding up the repatriation exercise, including the creation of safe zones in Burundi.

7. The two Ministers also made it categorically clear that, contrary to allegations being perpetrated in the media, there are no hostilities existing between the United Republic of Tanzania and the Republic of Burundi.

8. The discussions between the Ministers for Defence of the United Republic of Tanzania and the Republic of Burundi were conducted in an atmosphere of

frankness and cordiality, characterizing the good relations which exist between the two countries.

9. The two Ministers agreed that the next meeting would be held in Bujumbura in September 2001 on a date to be communicated through diplomatic channels.

10. Colonel Cyrille Ndayirukiye expressed his heartfelt and sincere gratitude to the Government and people of the United Republic of Tanzania and to Professor Philemon Sarungi for the brotherly warm welcome and hospitality extended to his delegation during its stay in Tanzania.

Done at Dar es Salaam on the 24th day of June 2001.

(*Signed*) Philemon **Sarungi**
Minister for Defence and National Service of the
United Republic of Tanzania

(*Signed*) Cyrille **Ndayirukiye**
Minister for National Defence of the Republic of Burundi